

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE**AUTOMATED DISK DRIVE LIBRARY WITH REMOVABLE MEDIA**

5 An automated disk drive library has a rack with drawers that are
interconnected with a host computer. A drive carrier having a disk drive is mounted
in each drawer. The drive carrier has a front bezel that senses whether the disk drive
is latched within the drawer and communicates with the computer. The front bezel
also has an optical sensor that may be coupled to an optical probe as an auxiliary data
10 interface with computer. The main data interface for the disk drive is provided by a
self-healing optical coupler at the back of the carrier and drawer. Power to the disk
drive is supplied via a magnetic coupling with split core transformers on the drive
carrier and drawer. The disk drive and carrier may be manually or automatically
15 installed into and removed from drawer via a drive mechanism in the drawer.

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